

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 02623 261345Z

43

ACTION ARA-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01

ARAE-00 PRS-01 A-01 /036 W

----- 062419

P 252325Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 611

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2623

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: "LA HORA" ATTACKS ON VESCO AND SEC

REF: SAN JOSE 2551, AND 2621

SAN JOSE A-68 DTD JUNE 23, 1975

1. THE RECENT ATTACKS IN "LA HORA" AND "EXCELSIOR" UPON THE SEC AND AMBASSADOR TODMAN WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH ON JUNE 23 WITH LUIS BURSTIN, DIRECTOR OF "EXCELSIOR." BURSTIN, WHO ALSO CONTROLS "LA HORA," WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO PROVE TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER HAD INSISTED TO ORLANDO NUNEZ, DIRECTOR OF "LA HORA" AND FIRM FIGUERISTA, THAT THE EDITORIALS BE RUN. BURSTIN WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT THE CAMPAIGN IN "EXCELSIOR" CRITICIZING THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR ITS UNUSUAL RECESS AND PREVIOUSLY AGAINST THE NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION ARRIVING IN COSTA RICA BOTH HAD BEEN STIMULATED BY ODUBER, NOT BY FIGUERES. BURSTIN PLAYED A TAPE FOR THE EMBASSY OFFICER WHICH APPEARED TO BE A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE DIRECTOR OF "LA HORA" IN WHICH THE LATTER CLEARLY TAGGED ODUBER WITH INSPIRING THE NEWSPAPER ATTACKS.

2. BURSTIN HAS NOW PLACED THE RESPONSIBILITY WITH ODUBER FOR SEVERAL PRESS STORIES THAT LOGIC WOULD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN JO 02623 261345Z

DICTATE COULD ONLY COME FROM FIGUERES. IN FACT, MOST

OBSERVERS IN SAN JOSE WHO HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THE
APPARENT FIGUERES/ODUBER TENSIONS OVER THE RECENT WEECS
FIRMLY BELIEVES "EXCELSIOR" AND "LA HORA" ARE
BEHAVING TRUE TO THEIR BENEFACTORS' (VESCO AND
FIGUERES) MANDATES. BURSTIN'S REVISIONISM AND THE
LENGTHS HE SEEMS WILLING TO GO TO MAKE US BELIEVE IT
AT FIRST BOGGLES THE MIND. WE REMAIN SKEPTICAL,
BUT IT IS OF COURSE POSSIBLE THAT HE IS TELLING THE
TRUTH. WE ALSO DRAW THE DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO
THE FACT THAT BURSTIN'S VERSION DIRECTLY CONTRADICTS
WHAT PRESIDENT ODUBER TOLD THE AMBASSADOR AND DAVE
LAZAR ON JUNE 18 (SEE REFTEL).
TODMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EXTRADITION, ALLEGATIONS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO02623
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750222-0237
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750617/aaaaapdj.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 SAN JOSE 2551, 75 SAN JOSE 2621
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "LA HORA" ATTACKS ON VESCO AND SEC
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS, US, LA HORA, (TODMAN, TERENCE A), (VESCO, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006